

**P-20 Council
Alignment Committee Meeting
March 19, 2008-2:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes**

Location: 1700 W. Washington, 6th Floor Conference Room B, Phoenix, AZ 85007
Committee Members Present: Dr. David Curd (telephonic), Dr. Karen Nicodemus (telephonic), Doug Oleson, and Dr. Bill McCallum (telephonic).
Staff Present: Lauren Kielsmeier, Erin Hart, Debra Raeder, and Claire Parriott.
Guests: Cheryl Lebo, Roberta Alley, and Mary Knuck of ADE.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Dr. Karen Nicodemus called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm. It was noted that Dr. Karen Nicodemus, Dr. David Curd, and Dr. Bill McCallum were attending telephonically.

2. Update/Discussion: Pathways That Align With University Entrance Standards

Dr. Karen Nicodemus updated the committee on the status of the Regents Diploma that was removed from consideration at the last hearing of the SBE. Discussions will continue with ABOR and other higher education faculty and staff on possible next steps. Discussion also continues on how to address career and technical education coursework being accepted by the universities.

3. Update/Discussion: Mathematics Standard

The Department of Education is holding public forums around the state to garner input on the revised Mathematics Standard. Six forums are being or have been conducted. The Standard is also available on ADE's website for public input. The Standard is on track for presentation to the SBE in May or June 2008.

4. Update/Discussion: Algebra II End of Course Assessment

Cheryl Lebo, Roberta Alley and Mary Knuck updated the committee on the status of the Algebra II End of Course assessment. Funding has been received to administer the test to approximately 1,300 students in Arizona. There has been a strong interest by school districts to participate in the pilot test, and ADE has been able to identify schools in districts from around the state. The test will be administered in May. Dr. McCallum reported that he is also preparing to conduct a study to evaluate the correlation between test scores on ACT, SAT, AIMS, and university placement exams with success in credit bearing courses and will include the results of students participating in the Algebra II End of Course Exam in this study. All three state universities, as well as Cochise College, will administer the Algebra II assessment to up to 100 undergraduates. The value of this study will be to help determine the feasibility of this test being used to predict a student's success in credit bearing.

5. Update/Discussion: Alignment Institute

An abbreviated Alignment Team attended the third Achieve, Inc. cohort meeting in Washington, D.C. on November 6th-8th, and began reviewing Arizona's English Language Arts Standard. Staff continues working with ADE, the universities and community colleges to identify team members to serve on the ELA Alignment Team, and to develop a timeframe to begin the review process of Arizona's ELA Standard.

6. Next Steps

It was suggested that high school students be surveyed to self assess whether they are college ready. Staff was requested to pursue additional joint meetings with SBE and ABOR staff and representatives to continue discussions on pathways to ensure college and workforce readiness. The Committee will

continue to pursue information on college readiness assessments and ascertain the feasibility or desirability of administering such assessments to Arizona's high school students.

7. Call to the Public

Ed Barbour addressed the Committee and indicated that in his cursory review of the Mathematics Standard he found it to lack specificity and would provide additional comment to ADE.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Karen Nicodemus at 3:30 pm.